The Western Luminary.

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AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

[*Abridged for the New-York Observer.*]

During the year now closed, there has been an increase in the number of Life Members, of Life Directors, of Auxiliary and Branch societies; and also in the revenue, and the demand for Bibles and Testaments.

The number of Auxiliaries formerly reported, was 593; the present number is 645.

The receipts of the year from all sources amounts to $143,184 33; of which there was received in payment for books $73,683 88; towards paying the debt on the Society's House, $2,349 38; donations $20,334 82; bank stock sold, $9,733 75; temporary loans, $35,500. The expenditures have amounted to $147,081 69.

The extension of the Society's operations during the past year, has produced a sudden and greatly augmented expenditure, such as the Auxiliaries, continuing still to order books on credit; seem not to have been conscious of, & have by no means met. Notwithstanding the assistance obtained by the sale of stock, the Managers, during some of the last months, have been under the necessity of borrowing additional means for the prosecution of their work. No less than $12,100 are now due from the Society for debts thus contracted: and $21,033 06 more, for paper purchased on credit. To contract debts in either of these ways, the Managers consider unwise, and by no means to be adopted except in the most pressing circumstances.

Books Printed.

The number of Books printed or otherwise procured by the Society during the year amounts to	362,492
Of which were, English Bibles	170,750
English Testaments	173,740
Gospel of Luke in Mohawk	500
Gospel of Matthew in Hawaian	15,000

Books Issued.

Bibles in English	89,652
Testaments in English	107,463
Bibles in Spanish	28
Testaments in Spanish	876
Bibles in French	533
Testaments in French	240
Bibles in German	1,012
Testaments in German	260
Dutch Bibles	23
Dutch Testaments	1
Welch Bibles	6
Irish Testaments	2
Gaelic Bibles	17
Gaelic Testaments	4
Hawaian Gospel	500
Mohawk Gospel	417
Total	201,039

This is an increase over the issues of the last year, of 65,515; and makes the aggregate issues since the formation of the Society, 846,397.

Of the issues of the last year, 191,974 were by sale; and 8,148 by gratuitous distributions. The gratuitous distributions have been chiefly to the Mohawk Indians, to the Sandwich Islanders, and to those new and more destitute parts of our own country in which exertions have been made to put the word of God into every family.

New Building.

The new building, mentioned in the last report, has been finished. Its dimensions are thirty-seven and a half by forty feet on the ground, four stories high, with a basement for a steam engine. In this building, with the aid of eight of Treadwell's patent presses moved by steam-power, and twenty common presses, the whole printing of the Society is now done. Copies can now be prepared at the rate of 300,000 a year, & for several months past the work has been going on nearly in this ratio.

Progress of the Bible cause.

In Maine, the Society has employed an Agent, who has succeeded in forming several efficient Auxiliaries; and in many parts of the State, the work of supplying every family with the Bible, has either been accomplished, or is now going on. Books have been forwarded the past year to the Auxiliaries in Maine, to the number of 20,596, of which 8,106 were entire Bibles.

The New-Hampshire Bible Society has connected with it 121 associations, and employs 119 local Agents. The Directors are confident that before another anniversary, every destitute family in the State will be supplied with the word of God.

The friends of the Bible in Vermont are engaged in the work of supplying all the destitute with Bibles, a great part of which is already accomplished. In Rutland County alone 1,400 Bibles and 400 Testaments were distributed.

In Rhode Island it is believed every family will be supplied with the Bible in the course of the ensuing year.

[Similar or even more cheering statements are made respecting the progress of the Bible cause in many other States; and indeed the report furnishes abundant evidence that the past year has been one of uncommon interest and exertion in this glorious work in almost every part of our land. The following table which we have prepared from the report shows the number of copies of the Scriptures which have been forwarded to the different States:

States.	Whole number.	Bibles.
Maine	20,596	8,106
New-Hampshire	5,991	3,084
Vermont	3,434	2,091
Massachusetts	13,847	6,640
Rhode-Island	3,659	2,252
Connecticut	3,748	1,534
New-York	58,308	21,752
New-Jersey	1,627	952
Pennsylvania	2,302	1,510
Delaware	100	
Maryland	10,900	7,708
District of Columbia	1,03	49
Virginia	10,232	5,659
North-Carolina	3,062	1,763
South-Carolina	5,530	2,279
Georgia	4,006	1,346
Ohio	14,085	8,399
Kentucky	8,730	4,817
Tennessee	3,793	1,887
Indiana	4,126	1,281
Illinois	2,585	1,009
Missouri	317	79
Alabama	2,423	564
Mississippi	1,155	729
Louisiana	1,843	1,238
Arkansas Territory	295	96
Michigan Territory	143	31]

Foreign Distributions.

For the Aborigines of this country, donations have been made to a considerable extent. To the Mohawks in Canada; to the Senecas in the Western parts of this State; to the Cherokees in Georgia, Tennessee, and Arkansaw; and to the Choctaws, books have been distributed through the agency of missions and schools.

To the Colony at Liberia, a donation of one hundred and fifty Bibles and 300 Testaments has been made.

The distribution of the Bible in South-America has been hindered by two causes—political disturbances, and the exclusion of the Apocryphal Books from the Society's Spanish Bible.

In one Diocese of Mexico an ecclesiastical decree has been issued against the sale or distribution of any Bible unless accompanied with Roman Catholics notes. In the preamble to this decree, the great Protestant principle, the right of private judgment, on which the American Bible Society acts, is denounced as "directly opposed to that laid down by the Holy Council of Trent, by which it was determined that the *living* voice of the *Church* shall settle the meaning of the Scriptures." Hopes are entertained, however, that the decree will soon be revoked.

Letters have lately been received from one of the Mexican States, (Chihuaha, bordering on our country,) soliciting with much earnestness, a quantity of Bibles. The writer is a citizen of the United States, now occupying a public station in Chihuaha, the duties of which have led him into every part of the State; and his opinion is, that among its 121,000 inhabitants, not more than six or eight copies of the Spanish Bible can be found. He hears frequent inquiries for it; and on his explaining the nature of the American Bible Society, several persons of distinction manifested a desire that an Auxiliary might be formed in that State, and some of them signified also a willingness to become members of the American Society, should there be no impropriety in such a measure. Three hundred Spanish Testaments have been forwarded to that place, and a quantity of Bibles will be sent by the first opportunity.

In Buenos Ayres, and in other parts of South America, the omission of the Apocrypha has been found a very serious obstacle in the way of the circulation of the Bible, yet not so great as to prevent it entirely, or to discourage efforts to bring about more correct views by the distribution of the New Testament, &c.

In addition to the $500 mentioned last year as having been expended for the purchase of Testaments for circulation in Greece, additional appropriations of $1,000 to aid Mr. King in the circulation of the Bible in that interesting country; and of $500 to be expended by Mr. Robertson, Agent of the Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society, for the same purpose, have been made. The reports of Mr. King, as our readers know, are of the most gratifying character; yet the circulation of the Bible in that suffering land is likely to be somewhat delayed by the want of a translation such as the Society can be confident has all the excellencies that ought to be found in one for general and permanent use.

The faithful application to the object contemplated, of the Society's former donation of $500 to assist the American Missionaries in Ceylon in printing the Bible in Tamul language, is reported; and in consideration of the urgent wants of those for whom the translation is intended, and of the facilities and encouragements to benevolent exertion that exist there, an additional sum of $500 has been appropriated to the same object.

The sum of $1,200 has been appropriated to assist in printing the Bible in the Burman language—the language of a population of 17,000,000—a translation having been made by Dr. Judson of the American Baptist Mission.

[After noticing the edition of the Hawaian Gospel mentioned above, with the pressing demand for which our readers are acquainted, the Report proceeds to give a view of the operations of Foreign Societies the principal facts respecting which we have already published.]

TESTIMONY OF A MISSIONARY.

If an agent wishes to fill the treasury of a domestic missionary society, he goes directly to those places where they are doing much for foreign missions. Charity in this case does actually begin abroad. What towns do support domestic missions! Those that do much for foreign missions. I have been east of the Penobscot, west of Scioto, north into Canada, and south of the Ohio; and I have been an agent of a domestic missionary society. Facts every where showed me that little could be obtained for domestic missions, except from such as had their hearts previously opened in the cause of foreign missions.—*Pittsburgh Herald.*

NEW YORK ANNIVERSARIES

From a correspondent of the Rochester Observer.

General Sabbath Union —The General Union for the observance of the Sabbath was held on the morning of the 12th May at the Methodist church in John street. The president of the society, Hon Samuel M. Hopkins, took the chair at half past ten, and the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Doctor Proudfit, of the associate Reformed Presbyterian church. The annual report of the society was read by Rev. Mr. Bruen of New York

A resolution for the acceptance and publication of the report was offered by Doctor Reese of the Methodist church, and followed by an address from the same. A number of resolutions were also passed, expressive of the sentiment of the meeting respecting the observance of the Lord's day, and followed by addresses. Jeremiah Evarts Esq. of Boston, Rev. Mr. McIlvaine of the Episcopal church of Brooklyn, Rev. Doctor McAuley of the Presbyterian church, New York, and Rev. Doctor Beecher of Boston, addressed the meeting, and were listened to with much interest and pleasure by the audience. Of these and other addresses which I have heard I need not attempt to give you either the substance or outline. It will be sufficient to say that they were such as to sustain the reputation of the gentlemen who delivered them.

Sabbath School Celebration.—This interesting celebration was held, as usual, at Castle Garden, which was filled to overflowing. From fifteen to twenty thousand persons were within its enclosure; more than two thirds of which, it is probable, were children. The service commenced with the reading of a hymn by Rev. Doctor Milnor, the venerable president of the society, in the singing of which a large proportion of this immense congregation united. A prayer was offered by Rev. Doctor De Witt of the Reformed Dutch church, and an address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Baldwin of the Presbyterian church. These, with singing two short hymns, a brief address and benediction by Dr. Milnor, constituted the exercises. Although there was a difficulty of hearing the addresses, &c. in the most distant part of the Garden, yet it was an interesting spectacle to behold such an assemblage of young immortals, and to hear the united voices of so many thousands praising God.

American Tract Society.—This Society held its annual meeting in the Presbyterian church in Wall street, on the morning of the 13th May. S. V S. Wilder Esq. of Massachusetts, presided on the occasion. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Doctor Richards, of Auburn Seminary after which the president made a brief, but very appropriate and interesting address to the society. The Report of the Executive Committee, which was one of uncommon interest, was read by the Corresponding Secretary. The report states the receipts of the society for the past year to have been about 60 000 dollars.

A number of resolutions were passed, and generally followed by addresses from those who offered them. The following gentlemen addressed the society: Rev. Eli Baldwin, of the Reformed Dutch church, New York, Rev. Jonathan Going, of the Baptist church, Worcester, Mass. Rev. Elias Cornelius, agent of the American Education Society, Rev. Doctor Clark, of the Congregational church, Bennington, Vt. Rev N. S. S Beman, of the Presbyterian church, Troy, Rev E Galusha, of the Baptist church, Whitesboro, and Rev. Mr Temple, late missionary at the Island of Malta. Many interesting facts were stated, not only in the report, but by some of the gentlemen who addressed the meeting, which I should now take the trouble to relate, were it not probable that you would obtain them from the Report and from the Tract Magazine.

American Home Missionary Society.—This Society assembled at an early hour in the evening of the 13th May, at the Wall street church. The Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, the venerable president of the society, took the chair at half past 7 o'clock. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev Mr Phillips, of New York. The annual report was read by Rev. Absalom Peters, Corresponding Secretary of the Society. It states the receipts of the Society, for the last year, to be about 27.000 dollars, the number of congregations assisted 401, the number of missionaries commissioned 304; of these, 186 supply single congregations. One thousand six hundred and seventy eight members have been added to these churches the past year. After the reading of the report the meeting was addressed by the Hon. Charles Marsh, of Vermont, Rev. Doctor Codman, of Dorchester, Mass., Rev. Mr. Cornelius, agent of the American Education Society, Rev. Mr. Van Vectan, of the Reformed Dutch church, Schenectady Rev Dr. Matthews, of the Reformed Dutch church, New York, Professor Hodge of Princeton Seminary, and Rev. Dr Beecher of Boston.

American Bible Society.—This Society met at the Wall street church on the morning of the 14th May. Col. Richard Varick, the president of the society, took the chair at 10 A. M. The report, read by the Secretary, gave a very interesting account of the society's operations for the year past. The receipts of the society for the last year from all sources is $143 000, and the whole number of bibles and testaments published 362 000 The publications of the last exceed those of the preceding year, 65,000. The society is now in a more prosperous state than at any time since its formation, and is in circumstances to undertake great things, with a fair prospect of accomplishing what they undertake. By one resolution adopted by the society it will appear that they are actuated by a commendable zeal. It is in substance this, "that they will supply within the period of two years every destitute family in the United States with the bible." The meeting was addressed by Rev. Mr Mulenburg, of the Episcopal church, the venerable John Stanford, of the Baptist church, Rev. Mr. Temple missionary from Malta, Rev Mr Cushman, of the Baptist church. Philad'a, Rev. Mr Patton, of the Presbyterian church, New York Rev Dr Milnor, New York and Rev. Dr Beecher, Boston.

Education Society.—The Presbyterian branch of the American Education Society held its anniversary also at the Wall street church, on the evening of the 14th, Rev. President Day, of Yale College, in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev President Brown, of Jefferson College, Pennsylvania. The report of the society was read by Rev. Mr. White. It states that the society is in a more prosperous state than it ever has been. The whole amount of receipts of this society and its auxiliaries, being about $10,000; and the number of beneficiaries 140. Many other facts, interesting to the friends of the education cause, were stated, but for these I would refer you to the report of the society, which is to be published The meeting was addressed by Rev. Dr McAuley and Rev. Mr. Ludlow, of New York, Rev. Dr. Skinner, of Philadelphia, Rev. Dr Proudfit, of Salem, N. Y., Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Rev. Mr. Patton, of New York, and Rev. Mr. Cornelius, agent of the American Education Society.

Infant School Society.—The annual meeting of the Infant School Society of New York was held at the Canal street church, at 10 o'clock, A M., on the 15th. One school was present and sustained an examination which must have convinced all who heard it of the great utility of infant schools —This is only the application to a school, of that moral and elementary instruction which a pious, faithful and competent mother would give to her children. The examination did honor to the ladies who have the management of the school I have never seen a child, not even in those families where parents have taken the most pains to instruct their children, who could answer correctly such a great variety of questions as were proposed to this school, and which were answered promply by a number of the children at once. The school embraces, as I learn, children between the ages of 1 1-2 and 7 years Mrs. Bethune, widow of the late Divie Bethune, of this city, and daughter of the late Mrs. Graham, whose life and writings are read with so much interest and pleasure by the pious, was present and appeared to be the superintendent of the school.

American Jews' Society —This Society met at the Rev Dr McLeod's church at 4 o'clock, P M Chief Justice Savage presided on the occasion. After the reading of the Report, the meeting was addressed by Rev. Mr. Westbrook, of the Reformed Dutch Church, Fishkill, Rev. Mr. Baldwin, of the Reformed Dutch Church, New York, Rev. Mr. McCarty, of the Presbyterian church, New York, and Mr. Abraham, a converted Jew, and licentiate of the Gospel Ministry. The Report states, that Rev Dr. Rowan, of New York, is now absent on a mission to Europe for the Society. He has already visited England, Scotland, and Ireland, where very handsome donations have been made thro' him to aid the objects of this Society. He is to visit Germany and Poland, and it is expected that such arrangements will be made in Europe and such plans adopted by the Society in this country, as will be effectual in ameliorating the condition of those Jews who may embrace Christianity.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

Since the receipt of the above, the New-York Observer has come to hand, coutaining further particulars respecting the Anniversaries. In reference to the Am. Tract Society it is said:—

The simple story of the growth and progress of this institution is, that its receipts, the first year were $10 000; the second year, $30.000; the third year, $45 000; the fourth year, $60 000; and its issues were, the first year, 1 000,000 of Tracts; the second year, 3,000 000; the third year, 5 000 000, and the fourth year, 6.000.000. What God designs for the Society in future is known only to him; but surely, "*Huherto hath the Lord helped us.*"

Receipts and Expenditures.

Total receipts the last year, $60,153 99
Total payments do. 60,153 99

The receipts and payments of the society were thus balanced at the

end of the year, but bills were due to the amount of $1 212 53; and the committee were under obligations for paper to the amount of $12.509 78, to be paid within six months. During the year, the treasury was frequently empty, and *at no time did it contain funds enough to meet the current expenses of the Society for ten days.* That the concerns of the Society are managed with the strictest economy, those who are able to estimate the various expenses necessarily incurred, will need no more decisive evidence than the fact that *eleven and a half pages have been printed for every cent received.*

Branches and Auxiliaries.

The Branch Society in Boston has 547 Auxiliaries, and circulated the last year 11,091,256 pages. Its receipts amounted to $12,450 23, being nearly $2 000 above those of any preceding year. The Auxiliary in Providence, R. I. has thirty active Auxiliaries, and has circulated during the last year more than 1 000 000 pages of Tracts. The Connecticut Branch, at Hartford, has remitted $599 89 for Tracts, $200 to perpetuate the Rev. Mr. Haven's Tract on Universalism, and $1 100 to aid the operations of the Society in the Valley of the Mississippi. The New York City Tract Society has distributed 2,121,193 pages during the year; and the Parent Society has received from its auxiliaries and from members of the evangelical churches in this city, within the year, about $9 078 12. The Branch at Utica, the State Branch at Albany, and the Auxiliary at Troy, have been active and efficient, as have also the Pennsylvania, Baltimore, and South-Carolina Branches; the Auxiliaries at Richmond, Augusta, &c. &c. The Branches and Auxiliaries in the Valley of the Mississippi are entering with a very honourable zeal into the plans of the Society for supplying that growing section of our country with such instruction as its publications afford. Eight or ten of them have subscribed together more than $5 000 for the object. The number of new Auxiliaries formed the last year, is 132, making the whole number of Branches and Auxiliaries immediately connected with the Society, 756.

Operations in the Valley of the Mississippi

It was but the day after the last Anniversary, that a delegate from one of the principal Branches of the Society at the West presented himself with official documents, all designed to influence this Society to some more enlarged, systematic, and efficient plan of operations, for the diffusion of the Gospel in the form of Tracts throughout the whole country West of the Alleghany mountains. The Committe met—they felt that it was but another call of Providence to enter vigorously on a field of effort which they had long seen to be important—and it was unanimously resolved to be expedient to appoint a General Agent for the Valley of the Mississippi. The Rev. Ornan Eastman was designated for that office, and in a few months proceeded to his field of labour. Six additional Agents, Rev. Messrs. James M'Aboy, Franklin Y. Vail, and Francis H. Case, and Messrs. Elizur Wright and Charles E. Furman, have since been appointed to labour in the same field.

These Agents are employed in forming auxiliaries, and establishing depositories with a sufficient supply of Tracts for the whole population; and they have been particularly instructed to "consider no portion of the country as occupied with Tracts for the time being, unless some shall be put into every family willing to receive them." Among the results of this effort that have already been witnessed, the remittance of $5 523 63 by auxiliaries in that country for Tracts at cost; the distribution of more than 800.000 pages there gratuitously; and the sending into that country of more than 11.000.000 pages of Tracts which may prove like so many "leaves" from the tree of life, are mentioned as facts most encouraging and gratifying. The correspondence of the Agents is of the most interesting character, showing clearly the immense importance and high promise of these efforts.

Divine blessing on the Society's Publications

Many evidences of the excellent influence of Tracts are mentioned in the Report, all communicated to the Society during the past year, either by individuals friendly to the Institution, or by the Society's Branches or Auxiliaries. They have occurred in such a diversity of circumstances, that they strongly corroborate each other, and challenge even infidelity itself to deny the reality of that transformation of character which God delights to honour himself by effecting through the instrumentality of his truth. We give a single extract as a specimen of this part of the report:

"In the precious work of divine grace among the females engaged in folding, stitching, and and preparing Tracts, in the Society's House, which the Committee would ever remember with devout gratitude to God, the influence of Tracts has been very apparent. A young woman, who first engaged in folding Tracts at the commencement of the year which has now closed, says that she was so impressed with the sacredness of her employment, that she felt she must retire from it. The sheets of the Tract entitled the *Day of Judgment*, came into her hands to be folded; the solemn title of the Tract, as she proceeded with her work, continually met her eye, and sometimes the words "Depart, ye cursed," and others showing the deplorable condition of those who know not God. She could no longer rest as an enemy of God; and after distressing convictions of sin, hopefully submitted herself to Him who will judge the world at the last day. Many others who have obtained hope in Christ since they engaged in these departments of the Society's operations, have received most salutary impressions from the reading of Tracts.

Conclusion.

The Report concludes as follows:

"Thus have the Committee reported the dealings of God with this Society through another year; results far more cheering and animating than were anticipated by the most sanguine of their number at the time of the Society's formation, and for which they would never cease, with true humility of heart, to give the glory to Him "who worketh all things according to the counsel of his own will." To his continued benediction and blessing, thro' the atoning blood of our once crucified, but now ascended Lord, the Committee would commend the Society and all its interests and concerns, confiding in him still to crown its efforts with all the success which he sees necessary to his own glory, to the honor of Christ in the salvation of men, and to fill heaven with everlasting songs of redeeming love and mercy."

N. Y. SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Of the New York Sunday School Union, it is stated:—

At the date of the last report, the Society numbered 90 schools, male and female—consisting of 794 male, and 757 female conductors—and 4,946 male, and 5 165 famale pupils. Two schools at Brooklyn have since been suspended—one has been dissolved—three have been amalgamated with other schools—and one Methodist and two Reformed Dutch schools have withdrawn. In the meantime there has been added to this Union 13 new schools, with 281 teachers, and 1,703 pupils.

EPISCOPAL SABBATH SCHOOL UNION.

The twelfth anniversary of the New York Protestant Episcopal Sabbath School Society was celebrated with the usual solemnities, in St. John's Chapel on the 22d April. The number of scholars at present connected with this institution, we understand, exceeds 3,000, nearly the whole of whom were present on this interesting occasion.—*Evening Post.*

A NOBLE EXAMPLE.

A correspondent in Augusta, Ga. informs us that a merchant in that city, who had dealt to a considerable extent in ardent spirits, came to the conclusion a few months ago that, considering the awful evils connected with the use of that article, he was doing wrong in selling it. He determined to sell out the stock which he had on hand, and to buy no more. On further reflection he considered that if it was wrong to buy any more for sale, it was wrong to sell what he had on hand and that it was his duty to throw away all his liquors. *He accordingly tapped his hogsheads, and let their contents run to waste, to the value of* SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS!

The rumor soon spread through the city. The grocers especially made a great noise about the matter—some could not believe the report—some said he must be a very weak man—some that he was a fool—and some that he was certainly going crazy, and deserved a strait jacket. Like a man of conscience and reflection, who had opened his eyes and looked full in the face at an alarming evil of the age, and who had got ahead of the false standard of feeling which long usage had established, he heeded not the abuse.

To some of his friends who inquired what harm there was in vending ardent spirits, he replied, that he considered selling ardent spirits for the purposes for which we know it is used, like selling arsenic to a man who buys it expressly to destroy himself. To others who asked why he did not sell his liquors and give the avails to charitable purposes, his reply was, that it would be doing evil that good might come—it would be injuring one to benefit another—it would be like robbing one man of his property to make a present of it to another.

"The example of this gentleman," our correspondent adds, "is doing good. It has brought the subject of intemperance more prominently before our community—it has compelled the friends of temperance to come out against the custom of vending spirits as a source of gain—a custom which is the main support of the most desolating evil of the age. The abuse heaped upon this merchant, like Colonel Johnson's sophistical report on Sabbath mails, is producing an investigation of a subject which only needs to be fairly looked upon, to produce a great change in public sentiment."

New York Observer.

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LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY:
JUNE 10, 1829

COMMUNICATED.

LEXINGTON TRACT DEPOSITORY.

A meeting of the citizens of this place was held at the M'Chord Church on Tuesday evening, June 2d, for the purpose of adopting some measures to increase the Tract Depository in this town, and to prepare the way for the more general circulation of religious Tracts in this vicinity. Dr. James Blythe was called to the chair, and W. T. Smith acted as Secretary of the meeting. The chairman opened the meeting by reading a portion of Scripture and prayer, and then stated the object of the meeting.

Rev. Mr. Eastman, General Agent of the American Tract Society for the Valley of the Mississippi, then rose and addressed the meeting. In his address Mr. E. gave a brief account of the origin and progress of the American Tract Society at New-York. Stated that a few benevolent individuals in the city of New-York, viewing the magnitude of the work of furnishing the United States with religious Tracts, very generously contributed the sum of $25,000 to purchase a lot and erect a house sufficiently large to give the Society permanent accommodations. This house has now been occupied by the Society three years, free of rent, which enables them to furnish Tracts at a less rate than they otherwise could. He stated that the attention of the Society had recently been directed to the States west of the Allegany Mountains, and that they were now sustaining six Agents in this Country who were devoting their time exclusively to the business of the Tract Society, and that more than one hundred Auxiliaries had been formed during the last six months; and that liberal subscriptions had been made for Depositories in Pittsburgh, Pa.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Louisville, Ky.; Nashville, Tenn.; Huntsville and Mobile, Alabama; Natchez, Miss.; New-Orleans, Louis.; and St. Louis, Mo. The whole amount raised in the above-named places, is about $4,000.

Mr. E. related many anecdotes illustrating the usefulness of Tracts, and urged the importance of making a spirited effort at this time to increase the Depository in Lexington.

Rev. Dr. Woods, and Rev. Messrs. Peers, Young, and Hinckley, then addressed the meeting in a very interesting manner; and the following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting cordially approve of the exertions now making by the American Tract Society to extend the circulation of their publications throughout this Western Country, and that we will aid as far as practicable in this important work.

Whereas it is indispensible to the success of this work, that a large Depository be established in Lexington, Therefore, *Resolved*, That a subscription now be opened for the purpose of increasing the Depository of the Female Tract Society already commenced in this place.

A subscription was then commenced, and has been increased to about $200; making, (with the stock already employed) the amount of the Depository, in Lexington, about $400; which we have no doubt will continue to increase by donations, and otherwise.

TRACTS IN STEAM BOATS
ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

It will be seen by an article on our last page that the sum of $100, has recently been contributed by the cabin passengers of the George Washington, for the purpose of furnishing the steam boats on the Mississippi, with the bound volumes, and unbound Tracts published by the American Tract Society.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

The following abstract of Missionary intelligence, was prepared for and read at, the last Monthly Concert Prayer Meeting in the 1st Presbyterian Church in Lexington.

An abstract of intelligence concerning Foreign and Domestic Missions, received during the last month.

Nothing, perhaps, has a greater tendency to cheer the friends of the Redeemer, and to excite them to renewed diligence in their Master's work, than intelligence such as we are wont to receive at the Monthly Concert of prayer.

When we take a retrospect at the moral condition of the immense heathen population of our globe, and remember that but a few years since they were almost totally immersed in savage barbarity and cruel superstition,—excluded from the light of the blessed Gospel,—ignorant of the existence of the God who made them, and of the salvation provided for their undying souls through a crucified Redeemer; and contrast this horrid picture of moral death, with the cheering hopes and brightening prospects which now gladden and bless them, can we fail to adore the riches of that grace which has thus converted the solitary place into a garden of the Lord! Then, there was no one, seemingly, to care for their souls; but, thanks to Divine Grace, it is not so now. There has been a mighty movement among the friends of the Redeemer; and Zion is already beginning to "look forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

Recent information represents the cause of truth as fast gaining ground in *India*. The natives manifest an increasing desire for instruction, and also for religious tracts. The schools established by the missionaries for the instruction of the children of the natives, are increasing, and daily gaining popularity among them. A missionary in this region writes thus:

"I have been chiefly occupied along with my zealous brother, Mr. Gutztaff, of the Netherlands Society, in going round amongst the people, both at Rhio and Sinapore, conversing with them freely, and giving them books.—We spent about ten days in this delightful work at the former place, and afterwards, about a fortnight at Singapore and the neighborhood. Almost every where, but more particularly in the town of Singapore, we met with a most cheerful and hearty reception, and had frequent and interesting conversation with crowds around us in the houses, in the temple, in the market places, and often in the streets, both by night and by day. We had not unfrequently, also, the pleasure of witnessing sharp and animated discussions among the heathens themselves; while some, more bigotted than the rest, would stand forth as the champions of idolatry, others boldly entered the lists and manfully defended the truth."

There is also a similar spirit manifested among the *Chinese*, who heretofore have been exceedingly unwilling, not only to receive missionary labours, but even to hold any friendly intercourse with foreign nations.

A universal sympathy, honourable to us as christians and philanthropists, seems now to pervade the whole christian world in behalf of suffering Greece. Efforts are being made on a most comprehensive and liberal scale, for their emancipation from the thraldom of ignorance and sin. Numerous public schools have been recently established, principally through the efforts of the missionaries of the cross, in which the hitherto wretched and abandoned children are not only instructed in the common learning of the schools, but also in those blessed truths contained in the Divine Oracles, which are able to make them "wise unto salvation."

Among many interesting facts communicated to the London Missionary Society, by a missionary now in Greece, the following is particularly worthy of our notice:

"I must mention a fact which will encourage the missionary friends of Greece. A petition for the works of Voltaire was brought to a man who seems, with his whole family, through the reading of the New Testament, and through conversations with Mr. Hartley, to be really converted to God; and I rejoice to think, that this now very poor man, who knows not from whence he shall to-morrow get bread for his family, (though once the richest of Haivali,) declined to write the petition, and thus lost two dollars; being, moreover, ridiculed by his friends: but he suffered all this willingly, because he knew that even to write the petition would make him an accomplice to the spiritual ruin of his nation."

Prospects are again brightening in Russia, where the influence of Divine truth has lately received a check, from the influence of regal opposition. In the language of one of the missionaries there

"Our Missions in the South of Russia have, through the clemency of the Emperor, recently received very considerable encouragement. Our settlements in Georgia have been formally confirmed; and the privilege has been granted to our missionaries, under the protection of the Government to disseminate the word of God in all the provinces between the Black and the Caspian Seas, among such tribes as have not yet been converted to Christianity. Our laborers are on a very friendly understanding with the Armenian clergy; and a wide field is opened for their labors, extending to the very gates of Tebris."

The progress of Divine truth is no less triumphant in the frozen regions of Greenland. Great eagerness is manifested for the word of life: and the last accounts represent that a considerable number of the natives have recently united themselves with the church of the Redeemer.

The interesting revolution in religious sentiment, which commenced but a short time since in Ireland, continues to progress, and to be productive of the most glorious results. A considerable number of missionaries are now employed there by the English Church, whose success, if we consider the superstition and bigotry in which the minds of the people were enveloped, is almost unprecedented.

"Many of the people say, "they can see no reason why they should be precluded the privilege of searching the scriptures for themselves." Such is their anxiety at present to read the holy scriptures, that many come the distance of 20 or 30 miles to buy this sacred book!"

A missionary at St. Christopher's, (one of the West India Islands,) represents the state of the unfortunate slaves at that place, as most interesting. He remarks:

"The great moral changes which God has wrought, are visible to every eye. The influence of this revival has extended far beyond the limits of our society. As I travel round my little station, instead of hearing the cursing and swearing of some, and the quarrelling and brawling of others, as formerly, my ears are saluted with the voice of prayer and songs of praise. Hundreds of those who but a little while ago were living without God in the world, are now rejoicing in a sense of his forgiving love, and maintaining good works.

The poor slaves on the estates hold prayer meetings amongst themselves at noon and in the evening, and these have been the means of much good.

The nett increase of members on our station, during the last quarter, is 410;

the total number of members is 1159; besides 101 children, amongst whom are many striking instances of the saving grace of God."

There are many interesting notices respecting the labours of the home missions in our own land, which we might here mention. But they are too numerous and too much in detail for our present occasion. But among all the efforts of Christian benevolence and heaven-born charity which characterise this fruitful age, none should more elicit our fervent gratitude to Almighty God, than the efforts now in operation by our Eastern brethren, to illumine the darkness and moral desolation which now hang portentous over this Valley of the Mississinpi, demanding, as with a voice of thunder, the fervent unceasing prayers and the liberal charities of every friend of Zion.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, May 21st, 1829.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church met agreeable to appointment, in the First Presbyterian Church, in this city, at 11 o'clock this morning, and was opened by the Rev. Dr. Ely, Moderetor of the last Assembly, with a sermon from Romans xv, 19, "I have fully preached the Gospel of Christ." After sermon the Assembly was duly constituted, and was found to consist of about one hundred and fifty members. The Rev. Benjamin H. Rice, of Petersburg, Virginia, was chosen Moderator.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Milnor, of New-York seconded by the Rev. Dr. Beecher of Boston,

Resolved, That this Society feel deeply thankful to Almighty God, that he has excited in the hearts of so many of the conductors of its Auxiliaries, the generous determination to explore the wants of the destitute, within their several regions of operation, and to supply them.

Resolved, That this Society, with a humble reliance on Divine aid, will endeavor to supply all the destitute families of the United States, with the Holy Scriptures, that may be willing to purchase or receive them, within the space of two years, provided means be furnished by its Auxiliaries and benevolent individvals in season to enable the Board of Managers to carry this resolution into effect.

Resolved, That with the full purpose of accomplishing, by the blessing of God, this most necessary and important work, it be earnestly recommended to ministers of the Gospel, and laymen of every denomination, in places where no Auxiliary Society has yet been formed, or where they have relaxed their efforts, to take immediate measures for carrying into effect the general distribution of the Scripture in their respective neighborhoods.

CIRCULATION OF THE BIBLE.

It will be seen by several articles which follow, that some, at least, among the friends of the American Bible Society are entering with spirit and energy on the great work of supplying the destitute throughout our country, to which they were called by the resolution brought forward last week by Dr. Milnor. It is indeed time—if we have the WORD OF GOD, it was long since time that we had not only placed it in every family in our own land, but that we had done something worthy the name of exertion and sacrifice, to send it through the world.

Those who are willing to labor for such purposes are few, and the funds at their command, limited. Those who have not the Bible are to be reckoned by hundreds of millions; and from among them, millions go down to the grave every year, thousands every day—and every hour and moment, indeed, they are falling away, unvisited by us, although in our hands God has placed the only truths that can sanctify and save. In view of such facts, what is the impulse of Christian principle and feeling!

Why do not Christians regard the payment of a pecuniary debt, as a gratuitous deed? Because justice and the laws of the land require it. Ought they to regard the command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," as of *less* authority? Yet for the former, *exertions* and *sacrifices* are often made, while for the latter, how few there are who do any thing more than is *perfectly convenient!*

New-York Observer.

A GOOD BEGINNING.

The following letter will show where the *first* contributions were made towards supplying *the United States* with Bibles *in two years.*

To the Rev. J. C. Brigham, Secretary of the American Bible Society.

DEAR SIR—The females connected with the Binding department of the American Bible Society's operations, have this day enjoyed the privilege of attending your thirteenth anniversary. They there heard your resolution to supply every destitute family in the United States with a copy of the Holy Scriptures within the period of *two years*. They were also told that this could be effected provided, among other conditions, that every professor of religion would give *seventy-five cents* for this object. They also heard that it was necessary to *act* as well as *resolve*, and that *immediate* measures must be taken to prevent a total failure of this important enterprize. Valuing as they do the Bible, the richest of Heaven's blessings, and knowing that thousands in the land are without it, they are anxious to do what they can towards carrying into effect the resolution referred to. For this purpose they ask you to accept, in behalf of the Society, the enclosed donation of *seventy-five cents* from each, making an aggregate of *forty-five dollars* and *seventy-five cents*.

In behalf of the donors, I am yours respectfully, CHARLES STARR.

New-York, May 14, 1829.

P. S. After witnessing the readiness with which your call is responded to by those whose almost every moment must be redeemed to enable them to earn their daily bread, I cannot deny myself the gratification of doubling the contribution which they have so generously made. I therefore send you ninety-one dollars and fifty cents.

Yours, &c. C. S.

RESPONSE FROM AN AUXILIARY.—The semi-annual meeting of the Young Men's Bible Society, New-Brunswick, N. J. was held on Monday last. The resolution adopted last week by the American Society, to supply with Bibles all the destitute in the United States, having been laid before the meeting, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society hail with pleasure the adoption of the resolution by the American Bible Society to supply the destitute in the United States, and that we will, under the blessing of Providence, exert ourselves to furnish our quota to carry into effect the above grand object.

Resolved, That we, who are present, double our annual subscription for the two ensuing years, and that we recommend the same to the absent members of this Society.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to solicit new subscribers and receive donations, and report to the Board at its next meeting.

The Rev. Dr. Proudfit, of Salem, N. Y. has consented, we understand, to become an Agent of the American Bible Society, for a time, to assist in carrying the resolution for supplying the United States with the Bible in two years, into effect. He will probably visit the State of Maine in the month of June, and go to the State of Ohio in the ensuing fall. This is a noble sacrifice on the part of that distinguished clergyman, but one, we trust, which thousands will be grateful for, not only through time, but forever. The time is near, it is believed, when many such sacrifices must be made—our wisest, strongest men must be sought to roll forward the wheels of benevolence.

PHILADELPHIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

During the past year thirty-one thousand six hundred and thirty-eight Bibles were distributed by this Society. It is estimated that 10,000 copies more will be necessary, for supplying every family in the State. The total number of Bibles issued by the Society, from the beginning, is 159,365.—*Col. Star.*

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

It is gratifying to observe the laudable, spirited, and philanthropic measures taken on this important, and too long neglected subject. The papers contain accounts of new Societies forming for this object every week;—the gifted of the country, knowing the importance of the cause in which they labor, seem to have become impressed with a determination to lay the axe at the root of the tree. The impulse which has already been imparted to the public mind, we trust, will be of an enduring character. We hope that *perseverantia vincit omnia* will be their motto, until the evil be completely eradicated. *Ib.*

The following paragraph we extract from a Southern paper. What a comment on intemperance does it present. Volumes of eloquence could not speak the extent of misery, which this awful vice entails upon its followers. Well is it said, 'who hath wo? who hath sorrow? who hath wounds without cause!'

Nathaniel Perry, has been arrested at Weston, Conn. charged with the murder of his wife. She was found by her two sons tied to one of the andirons before the fire, with a handerchief twisted around her neck, just breathing her last. It appeared that she had previously been knocked down. Perry was found near the house *intoxicated!*

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE LATE EARTHQUAKE IN SPAIN.—In a Decree of the 5th April, after adverting to the disastrous occurrence of the 21st March, in the districts of Orihuela and Murcia, by which was suddenly converted into a desert, a tract of fruitful country in which stood, before, twenty buildings consecrated to public worship, and upwards of four thousand houses, and fabrics of various descriptions, under the ruins of which are now buried numbers of their late tenants, together with their crops, their cattle, and all their wealth—His Catholic Majesty makes it known, that he and his Queen have, out of their privy purses, made a donation of $75,000 for the relief of the surviving sufferers, besides his ordering 20,000 faneagues of wheat to be applied to the same purpose, out of tithes belonging to the Crown; and further exhorts, in the most urgent manner, the corporations, grandees, prelates, and nobles of his kingdom, the opulent and in short every class of his subjects, to come to the assistance of their unfortunate brethren.

COLUMBIA AND PERU.—The armies of Columbia and Peru—the former 5,000, and the latter 3,000 strong—met on the 27th and 28th of February. A decisive battle was fought, in which the former were victorious. An armistice was signed on the field of battle, in which it was agreed to refer their political disputes to the government of the United States. No official account however, has been published in this country. A single copy of the Proclamation of Bolivar, announcing the result, was forwarded by the American Consul, but being addressed to the Secretary of Sate, it was immediately transmitted to Washington.

MINISTERIAL HOLINESS.

A heterodox conversation will carry an orthodox preacher to hell; there is a preaching life as well as a preaching doctrine; if irreligion be taught by the first, and religion by the latter, we sadly disappoint the end of what is spoken: though, like a cracked bell, we might be instrumental in ringing others to heaven, yet for ourselves there is no remedy, but to the fire we must go, either for our refining, or condemnation. The throne and the pulpit, above all places, call for holiness: the prince and the preacher, above all persons, are most accountable to God for their example.—*Burkitt.*

Patrick Henry's opinion of Deism.—It is, says he, "but another name for vice and depravity."—Henry made himself conspicuous, early in the Revolution, by his decision and boldness on the side of liberty, and was honored accordingly. But he was an *independent man*—and such men infallibly fall under the censure of time-servers.

Education in Greece.

Plan for promoting Common School Education in Greece. Adopted by the Greek School Committee, New York, May 1829.

PLAN.

The Committee appointed at a late meeting of Gentlemen, at the rooms of the New York Historical Society, to prepare a plan to promote education in Greece, respectfully present the following to the public.

It is proposed to establish in that country—

I. A High School or National Academy, at which young men may be trained for superintending elementary Schools, and for the study of the useful professions.

II. A High School for Females, designed primarily for the instruction of those who may become teachers.

III. Several Elementary Schools, as models of the most improved method of instruction.

To give efficacy to these measures, and to promote the general object, means should also be provided for preparing and publishing, and perhaps, to some extent, distributing gratuitously, school books in the Greek language, and other works relating to education.

The details in the execution of this plan, it was resolved to commit to the following gentlemen, to be designated

THE GREEK SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Albert Gallatin, *Chairman.*
Mr. Arthur Tappan, *Treasurer.*
Rev. M. Bruen, *Corres. Secre.*
Mr. Knowles Taylor, *Rec. Sec.*
Mr. Seth P. Staples, Esq.
Mr. Eleazer Lord, Esq.
Dr. Samuel Akerly,
Mr. Richard T. Haines.

To the citizens of the United States.

The Greek Committee believe that the cause of Common School Education needs no advocate in this enlightened nation. The miseries of the southern half of our continent have been prolonged by the want of good common schools. It will be universally admitted, that the deep sympathy excited in these United States, in behalf of Greece cannot expend itself better, than in efforts to diffuse there our rich stock of common knowledge.—Knowledge and morals constitute a fund of individual and national worth, which may accumulate from generation to generation. By a recent survey, known to this Committee, the common schools of Greece are found to be in that dejected state, which might be anticipated from her long subjugation, and the wars attending her late revolution. American efforts upon that soil have been greeted with the warmest gratitude; and the parents who fed their children with our bread, last year will rejoice to have them enriched with the intelligence of a country, whose philanthropy is its glory. Already the government of Greece has applauded the first attempt to improve their common schools, and lends the most favorable countenance to our countrymen, embarked in the enterprise. If *ten or twelve thousand dollars* can be collected here, annually, for a few years, the present plan will be crowned with complete success.

Two learned Greek Professors, already possessed of the confidence of their countrymen, united with several men from the United States, competent to instruct in our best Colleges, and acquainted with all the recent improvements in science and education, can at once open in Greece a Seminary for School masters: and, as the result, other Institutions will soon be formed, which will diffuse and perpetuate their blessings, co-extensively with the Greek language. In a few years, these institutions, it may be hoped, will all be assumed and supported by the Greeks themselves.

The Committee beg leave to express their confident persuasion, that, in no crisis of past centuries, could the same amount of good to the human race ever have been purchased at so moderate an expense. And this Circular is issued, that the inquiry may be answered by donations in money, to what extent the plan meets the concurrence of the friends of Greece and of mankind.

Its advantages are,

1. That it is simple and practicable. The proposed field is now a free country, where the whole population thirst for improvement, and where common school education, and all the useful arts, are waiting to receive the impulse of the age.

2. It is cheap. Few things are so dear as a bad school-master; want of practical acquaintance with teaching is the most obvious deficiency, with those who enter upon this important office; model schools, with superior schools for teachers, are now very earnestly called for by the spirit of improvement among ourselves. At the expense of a few thousand dollars, provision may be made in Greece for a system, which will never after need our nursing care.

3. It is timely. The Greeks, exhausted by a terrible war, with most of the institutions which existed before the revolution destroyed, cannot, for years to come, relieve themselves from that state of ignorance and degradation which threatens the rising race.

4. It promises great results; not only upon Greece, but ultimately upon the whole region of the ancient Roman Empire. If this appeal meets the co-operation which is confidently anticipated, four or five able Instructors will be sent out in the coming Autumn. We invite the formation of Greek Committees, in different cities and towns, to correspond with this Committee; and especially do we cherish the hope, that *Associations of Ladies*, for the support of the Female High School, and for the general improvement of the sex, will be formed, wherever it is felt, how indispensable are Female intelligence and virtue to a nation's glory and felicity.

At the end of a year, a detailed Report of the receipts from individuals or Auxiliary Committees, and of the proceedings of this Committee, shall be published, and a new election of a Central Committee be made by the donors.

The translation of our common school books into modern Greek, and their introduction, is contemplated as a leading object with the Committee. The common sentiment of a country depends more upon these, than upon any other single cause; and more practical talent has, perhaps, been thrown into our own school books, than is to be found elsewhere. Our *common* school system is more perfect than even that of the enlightened country whence we derive our lineage. Education here fits directly for the business of life, and is well suited to a people just emerging from revolution, and among whom equal rights are acknowledged. And now, when school books for modern Greece are yet to be made, better ones probably could not be produced by the labor of half a century there, than we can carry thither, in their vernacular tongue, in half a year. Shall we not then, help the Greek boy to the best spelling and ciphering book? and the Greek girl to the best thoughts of our writers on Female Education; as well as those of Maria Edgeworth; and Hannah More? And, perhaps, hereafter, the youth to a translation of our larger works of science, and the "Library of Useful Knowledge?"

It will be peculiarly honorable to our free and happy citizens, thus to co-operate in the cause of common schools, in Greece—the very heart and eye of the world. The keys to the mind of Asia, must ever be on the Hellespont, and in the hands of the Greeks. The elevation of Greece will illuminate all those regions which Christianity early civilized. But the sun of Asia is darkened while Greece is in an eclipse. On school Geometry is a translation from the language of that remarkable people whose literature has so eminently refined and controlled public sentiment, and who seem destined by Providence to rekindle the lights of science on those plains and mountains where exist the most ancient seats and the holiest monuments of the race of man. It is believed that an American Institution of the kind proposed, planted at Argos or at Athens, will help to bind two great regions of the globe in fellowship; and will be hailed as a generous pledge of what one continent can do for the intellectual and moral elevation of another.

M. BRUEN,
Cor. Sec of the G. S. Committee.
New York, May 1829.

*** It is requested that the earliest notice of the formation of Auxiliary Committees be forwarded to the Secretary.

☞ It is desired that remittances be made to the general Treasurer, Mr. Arthur Tappan, 122 *Pearl-street, New York*, as soon as convenient, that the plan may be speedily carried into effect.

Editors of Newspapers, it is believed will cheerfully insert the above, and invite the attention of their readers.

CHRISTIAN FAITHFULNESS.

The company of Miss R. having been respectfully solicited at a Ball on the th of March last, the following answer was returned to the invitation.

Miss R after presenting her compliments to the managers, would respectfully inform them that she cannot conscientiously accept of the polite invitation tendered her to engage in the amusement of dancing. She presumes that the gentlemen, after hearing her reasons, will consider her excusable.

1. She thinks that her time is too precious to be spent in (to say the least) a trifling manner; and as dancing will never save her soul, she deems it prudent to spend the night in a very different manner; to spend the evening in prayer, after which to compose herself to sleep. And if it is God's will to allow her to see the light of another morning, she trusts that she shall be refreshed, composed, and happy; not fatigued by too much exercise, or tortured by the thoughts of having spent one more day of probation in sin, and one day less to repent; & one day nearer the solemn hour of death, for which she thinks it wise to prepare; one day nearer that majestic day when the Judge shall place the sheep on the right hand and the goats on the left.

2. She would inform the gentlemen that she has found, after serving Satan for several years, that he is a hard master, and never rewards his most obedient servants with good; but, on the contrary, punishes

his most faithful followers with great severity; and after faithfully serving him, and employing all our abilities in his service our only reward is to dwell in the infernal regions, and in his most disagreeable company — our master becoming our tormentor through the endless ages of eternity.

For these reasons she has left his service, and found another Master, who will reward every man according to his works. Her present Master is possessed of every good thing, and he enforces no commands upon his servants but those which they are able to obey. He loves his servants; and in his love and service is perfect freedom. He condescends to call his servants children, and gives them peace and happiness on earth, and an "inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, which fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for those that love him." He makes them heirs of glory, "joint heirs with Jesus Christ," his only Son. He supports them through all the afflictions of life, and they may pass through the valley and shadow of death fearing no evil; his rod and his staff comfort them, and he gives them a seat at "his right hand, where are pleasures for evermore."

As she has found him to be so good a Lord and Master, she has no desire to leave his service; and as he has expressly forbid serving any but him, and told us that we "cannot serve God and mammon;" and as dancing is one of the services of the wicked one, which will lead our thoughts from God, she would deem it a violation of God's law to engage in it. And as she has forsaken her former master, and wishes ever to be free from his bondage, which is sin, she purposes to engage heartily in the worship of God on that evening. Therefore she will beg to be excused.

Yours with due respect, A. R.

Adv & Jour.

DEATH OF A PARISHIONER.

There is no season of reflection more profitable to a minister, than when he is following a parishioner to the grave. He has an opportunity, at such a time, to review his intercourse with the soul whose eternal destinies were in some measure decided by his instrumentality. Perhaps he was unfaithful to his trust; he may have spent in trifling and vanity some hour which might have been improved to the salvation of this friend. How favourable an opportunity is this to mourn over past deficiencies, to impress the mind with the awful responsibilities of the ministerial office, and to form resolutions of greater faithfulness in time to come. When the departed friend has given evidence of regeneration, and the minister has reason to believe that this soul will be a star in his crown of rejoicing, he enjoys at such a time, a rich source of consolation.

I walked in a funeral procession some time since, with an aged minister. The deceased had been a member of his congregation, but had given no evidence of a change of heart. When we came to the grave yard, the minister pointed to the place where one and another of his parishioners were sleeping. "There will be a great harvest here," said he, "for the angels to reap at the Judgment day. Oh let me not behold the sight when they shall sever the wicked from among the just. I fear that I was not so faithful with many of my dear people, as I might have been. O sir, it is a solemn thing to be a minister of the gospel; it is a solemn thing for a minister to follow one of his people to the grave; it will be a solemn thing to meet them at the judgment of the great day. This man whom we now commit to the grave, was one of the leading men in my parish. I offended him, I believe, by personal conversation on the subject of religion; and since that time I have refrained from being so plain with him as I might have been. The Lord judge between him and me." He seemed much affected when the coffin was placed in the grave; and on our way home, he handed me a tract, on the corner of which were "Lines on the death of one of his people." He said that he always pondered upon these lines, when any of his people were called to the eternal world.—*N. H. Obs.*

WELSH ANECDOTE.

ON THE SUPPORT OF MINISTERS.

A Welsh clergymen, invited to assist in the ordination of a minister in some part of England, was appointed to deliver the address before the congregation; and having been informed that their previous minister had suffered much from pecuniary embarrassment, although the church was fully able to support him comfortably—took the following singular method of administering reproof.

In his address to the church, he remarked, "You have been praying, no doubt, that God would send you a man after his own heart, to be your pastor. You have done well God, we hope, has heard your prayers, and given you such a minister as he approves, who will go in and out before you, and feed your soul with the bread of life. But now you have prayed for a minister, and God has given you one to your mind, you have something more to do—you must take care of him; and in order to his being happy amongst you, I have been thinking you have need to pray again. "Pray again! Pray again! What should we pray again for?" Well; I think you have need to pray again. "But for what?" Why I'll tell you. Pray that God would put Jacob's ladder down to the earth again. "Jacob's ladder! Jacob's ladder! What has Jacob's ladder to do with our minister!" Why I think if God would put Jacob's ladder down, that your minister could go up into heaven on the Sabbath evening after preaching, and remain all the week; then he could come down every Sabbath morning so spiritually minded, and so full of heaven that he would preach to you almost like an angel. "O yes, that may all be very well, and if it were possible we should like it; but then we need our minister with us during the week; to attend prayer meetings, visit the sick, hear experience, give advices, &c. &c. and therefore we must always have him with us; we want the whole of his attention." That may be, and I will admit the necessity of his daily attention to your concerns; but then you will remember, that if he remains here, he must have bread and cheese; and I have been told that your former minister was often wanting the necessaries of life, while many of you can enjoy its luxuries: and therefore I thought if God would put Jacob's ladder down, your present minister might preach to you on the Sabbath, and by going up into heaven after the service of the day, save you the painful necessity of supporting him."—*Col Star.*

INTERESTING LETTER.

The following letter (from the New-Jersey Sabbath School Journal) was written by the late Rev. James B. Taylor, to a family of friends at Lawrenceville, N. J. previous to his departure for Virginia;—where he finished his earthly course in the family of the Rev. Dr Rice.

New-York, Oct. 31, 1828.

My much beloved friends—You will be glad to hear from me, though still "in bonds." The chain that bound me, when at your house in June, though not so heavy still holds me. Whether I shall burst it ere I become a disembodied spirit, is known of Him who, as on angel wings, has upheld our going.

Hither I have come to sojourn but three days more. On Monday the spread canvass will be swollen to waft me, not to your dwelling, but to a haven appointed by physicians and friends. I set sail for Petersburg. Thence I go to Prince Edward county, Va. to winter, unless mercy, I am taken to a clime more desirable.

I have detained this, in hopes that in person I should see you. For this purpose, I had designed to pass through Princeton and Lawrenceville. But my health does not warrant the fatigues of journeying, and the excitement of seeing dear friends, I am denied. It is a self-denial. Peradventure, I may return in the Spring, better able to enjoy the society of those I love. If not, the land of delights is before me.

Do you ask how I am in my protracted afflictions? The Lord doeth all things well. To me the grave wears choice attire. Paradise, more choice. Sweet thoughts of Jesus melt my soul. Communion with Heaven is soul elevating, and soul transforming. In a word, I am a happy, though a sick and dying one. The Lord most gently and mercifully hands me down the hill of life, while its descent appears but a little way off. O it will be sweet to take the last step, and walk in to eternity. I wish, and oft with with longing, to see Jesus as he is—to mingle with the Holy above, and sing the song of the shining ones. O think not that I am gloomy or depressed—far, far, very far from it. Think of me as visited from above, and rolled along in a chariot all paved with love.—Think of me as one who loves you. Think of me and pray for me as one feeble, shattered, tottering, and almost falling one falling into the arms of our Beloved.

If, my last, my most affectionate adieu. J. B. TAYLOR.

ANECDOTE.

"Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God."

When the Danish Missionaries appointed some of their Malabarian converts to translate a Catechism, in which it was mentioned as the privilege of Christians that they become the sons of God; one of the translators, startled at so bold a saying, as he thought it, bursting into tears, exclaimed, "It is too much; let us rather render it, They shall be permitted to kiss his feet."—*Col. Star.*

CHRISTIAN CONTROVERSY.

A beautiful idea occurs in one of the sermons of Jeremy Taylor, to which it would be well to lend attention, even at this period of boasted liberality—"If we must contend (speaking of Christians) let it be, like the olive and the vine, which shall bear most and best fruit; not like the aspen and the elm, which shall make the most noise in the wind.—*Church Reg.*

All our moral duties are contained in these few words; "Do as you would be done by."

Poetry.

THE CONVERT.

I ask'd if earthly joys or cares
Were worth an anxious thought;
Eternity's unnumber'd years
Proclaim'd aloud, they're not.

I ask'd if in my youthful veins,
My life-blood long should flow;
But soon, ah! soon, in mournful strains,
The grave-yard answer'd, No!

I ask'd if I might spend in sin,
The time I here should dwell;
But conscience answer'd from within,
And pointed me to hell.

Distress'd, I cried, what shall I do!
O! whither shall I fly!
Is there no refuge for my soul!
The Gospel made reply:—

Come ye, who to the present hour
Have spent your lives in sin;
Come, wretched, helpless, needy, poor;
Come, knock and weep at mercy's door;
And Christ will let you in.

I heard the Gospel's cheering voice
The way of life declare;
Flew to the shelter of the cross,
And found salvation there.

TRACT CAUSE

To the Editor of the Public Advertiser.

TRACT CAUSE ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

Every Steam Boat to be supplied with Tracts.

DEAR SIR—Permit me to acknowledge through the medium of your paper, the receipt of $100 from the cabin passengers of the George Washington, contributed by them at the close of public worship on Sabbath morning, 31st of May, for the purpose of furnishing the Steam Boats on the Mississippi with the bound volumes and the unbound Tracts, published by the American Tract Society. Having distributed tracts extensively on board our steam boat, among between three and four hundred passengers, during our voyage from New-Orleans to Louisville, and finding they were eagerly and extensively read, and had (as usual) excited much interest in favor of the Tract cause, and had also drawn forth unsolicited donations; it was judged expedient and desirable, on Sabbath morning, to present before the passengers, in a sermon, a full exhibition of the interesting character, claims and operations of the American Tract Society. Our spacious cabin being accommodated with seats for this purpose by the kindness of Capt. Holton, our congregation was not only respectable for numbers, but highly respectful in their attention to Divine worship. As the speaker was able to appeal to the experience of his hearers, in proof of the interesting and elevated character of these publications, and as it was very evident that the intellectual and moral improvement, as well as the rational enjoyment of passengers, would be greatly promoted by a constant supply of tracts on board of all the steam boats on the river; the collection that was taken up for this object was not only liberal in its amount, but was contributed, we doubt not, with the greatest cheerfulness, and with a full conviction of its importance.

Early measures will be taken by the parent society, to carry the benevolent wishes of the donors into effect; and while they will rejoice in the commencement of an object so dear to their hearts, we trust it may be their happiness soon to see the worthy example of our Southern citizens, imitated at the North and East and West, until every steam boat in the United States shall be blessed with the invaluable library of the American Tract Society—a library consisting of 220 different publications containing some of the finest specimens of composition in the English language; embracing the writings of some of the wiset and best men of different denominations in this and other countries—and a library, too, which may be purchased at the trifling expense of three dollars.

While making this grateful mention of the benevolence of his fellow passengers, the agent would beg leave to make a similar recognition of the prompt and liberal manner in which the claims of the American Tract Society have been met, wherever presented by him in the Southern section of our country. Yours, &c.

FRANKLIN Y. VAIL,
Agent of the American Tract Society.

OBITUARY.

HON. JOHN JAY.

Died, on Sunday the 17th ult. at Bedford, in West-Chester County, N. Y. the honorable and venerable JOHN JAY, at the advanced age of 84 years.

Among the great men which this country has produced, very few have risen to a degree of eminence and excellence equal to that of this distinguished patriot and statesman. Mr. Jay was a descendant from one of the Huguenot families, which fled from France at the revocation of the edict of Nantz. Previously to the commencement of the Revolutionary struggle, he was settled in the practice of law in New-York city, where he soon rose to great distinction and reputation. Upon the breaking out of hostilities, he took a most decided and active part on behalf of the country; and during the whole controversy, he occupied various public and important stations, one of which was President of the Continental Congress; and in all of which, he was one of the most efficient and influential agents in carrying on the war and conducting the affairs of the States, that were ever called to the national councils. In 1779 he was appointed Minister to Spain. Mr. Jay remained in Europe until the year 1782, and took a prominent part in the negotiations which terminated in the acknowledgement of our independence by Great Britain.

When the Constitution of the United States, prepared by the Convention of 1787, was submitted to the States for their adoption, great anxiety prevailed concerning the results, throughout the Confederation, and particularly as it regarded the State of New-York Previously to the meeting of the State Conventions, the great work called the FEDERALIST was undertaken and accomplished, by the joint labors of John Jay, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison.

When the new government was organized, Mr. Jay was nominated by General Washington, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. This office Mr. Jay held until the year 1794, when he was appointed by General Washington, Minister Extraordinary to Great Britain.

After his return to the United States, Mr. Jay was for several years Governor of New-York, his native State.

After he left the chief magistracy of the State, Mr. Jay relinquished all public employment; and for more than twenty years past, he has resided on his estate in West-Chester County. Deeply imbued from early life with the principles of the Christian religion, and viewing them as the source of all that is desirable in this life, and of all that we hope for in the life to come, that great subject has engrossed his thoughts, and occupied his attention for many years past, to a degree rarely found to exist among politicians and statesmen. After the death of his venerable friend and fellow patriot, of the same age, the Hon. Elias Boudinot, another descendant from the Huguenots, Mr. Jay was appointed President of the American Bible Society—an institution in which he took the deepest interest, and for whose prosperity he labored and prayed with the most fervent and unceasing devotion.

During his retirement, the duties of piety towards God, have been mingled with those of the parent and friend; and the delightful retreat of Bedford, for a quarter of a century, has beheld this aged patriot, bending in deep humility and prostration of spirit, before the cross of his divine Master—the great REDEEMER of men.—*Daily Advertiser.*

JOHN CLEVES SYMMES.

Died, in Hamilton, Butler Co. Ohio, on Thursday 28th May, after a protracted illness, Captain JOHN CLEVES SYMMES, extensively known as the author of the theory of Open Poles and Concentric Spheres. Capt. Symmes was a native of New-Jersey, but emigrated at an early age to the Western country. He was attached to the army of the United States for a number of years, and during the late war, distinghished himself on the Northern frontier by his coolness and intrepedity.—He sustained through life the character of an amiable and exemplary man, and died with religious composure and philosophical resignation.—*Pandect.*

FRUITS OF INTEMPERANCE.

A distressing event occurred in the town of Westerlo N. Y. on Tuesday last, which was occasioned, to put the very mildest construction upon it, by most gross carelessness in the handling of fire arms. A Mr. George Ervin, who lives in the south part of Westerlo, went into the house of a Mr. Gregory, a neighbour, to borrow a gun. On taking down the gun, not thinking it to be loaded, he pointed it at Mrs. Gregory, and snapped it. He was cautioned against snapping it, and told it was loaded. He blew into the muzzle and said it was not; and turning around to a daughter of Mrs. G., named Sally, aged about 18 or 20, who was sitting at her work, singing a lively tune, he remarked to her that she ought not to sing that tune, but prepare herself for another world, as he was going to shoot her. As soon as he said this, he pointed the gun at her and snapped it, when it went off and the contents entered her left breast. The charge was shot off, but as it entered her body very obliquely from the right, the main part of it did not reach the vitals. It is thought, however, that some particles of the powder penetrated the substance of the lungs, as there was some inward bleeding. Medical aid was soon obtained, but it is thought her recovery is doubtful. Ervin is about forty years of age, and has a wife and children. He is said to be addicted to intemperance, and to have been somewhat under the influence of liquor when he entered the house. He has been committed to the jail of this county.—*Rensselaer (N. Y.) Folio.*

DESTRUCTIVE HAIL STORM.

We have never witnessed a more furious and destructive storm of hail, wind and rain, than the one by which Tuscaloosa was visited on last Saturday evening the 7th May. Indeed, We have conversed with many, young and old, and all concur in saying, they never before, in this or any other country, by land, or sea, beheld the like. If the earth, with all the heavenly bodies, was swung loose from its orbit, the elements could not exhibit more fury, violence and commotion. Night had not come on, and yet it was impossible to see half way across the street. It may be truly said, "the wind roared and the torrents tumbled from the hills." The hail stones were not so large as some we have heard described; but the quantity that fell in twenty minutes is unprecedented. The ground was covered with hail in an average depth of four inches; and in places it was drifted together in large bodies, from seven to nine feet deep. It came first from the north, but veered round with great rapidity to the east and south, destroying every thing before it. On the north side of Mr. Ewing's tavern not a pane of glass, nor even a piece as large as a dollar was left in the sash; the damage done to the southeastern part of the building was little less. Mr. Ewing's loss, however, was not more complete than that of his neighbors. All tender vegetation within the range of the storm was destroyed. The forest is disrobed of its verdure, and the ground is as thickly covered with green leaves as in autumn it is with the yellow. The trees of the orchard have lost their fruit, their leaves, and even their smaller boughs. In the fields and gardens, every thing that had peeped above the surface has been beaten into the earth. The injury to wheat crops, &c. is irreparable.

The extent of the hail storm has not, we understand, been very wide, having been as bad or worse here than elsewhere, though the wind has done extensive injury in prostrating the timber and fences.—*Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Int.*

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